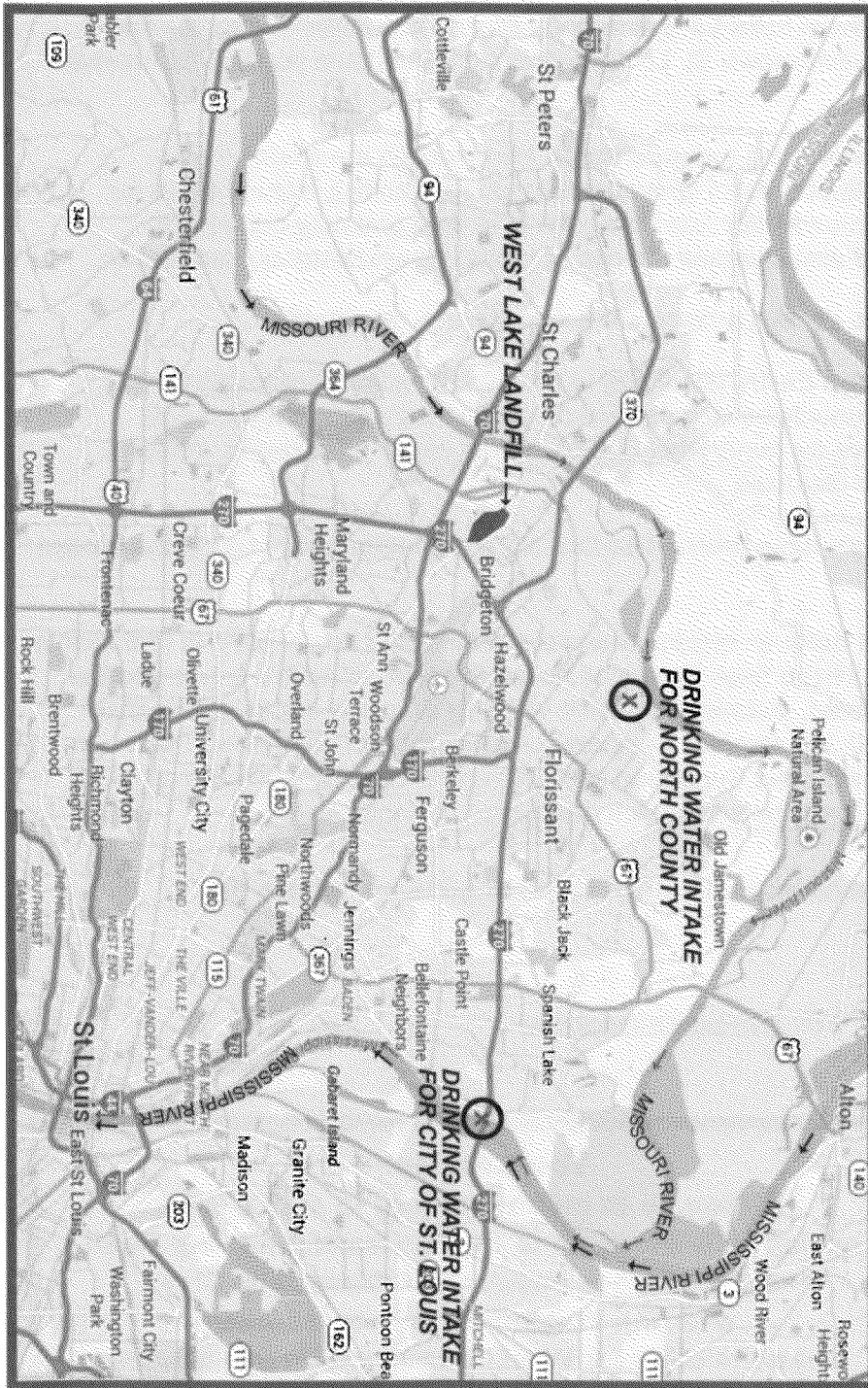


Safely Remove Radioactive Waste NOW!!



*Protect Metro St. Louis'
water and air
from West Lake Landfill's
radioactive contamination!*

West Lake Landfill: Remove the radioactive wastes from Metro St. Louis - - NOW!



Safe Removal of Nuclear Weapons Wastes Is Needed at West Lake Landfill

Thousands of tons of nuclear weapons wastes are near an underground fire at the West Lake Landfill in north St. Louis County. The radioactive wastes originated in the 1940s and 1950s when Mallinckrodt Chemical Works, near downtown St. Louis, processed uranium in secrecy for nuclear weapons. The wastes were illegally dumped at the landfill in 1973.

The West Lake wastes threaten drinking water. The radioactive wastes are contaminating groundwater at the landfill in the Missouri River floodplain. The groundwater flows into the Missouri River (which runs into the Mississippi River) upstream from public drinking water intakes for north St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis. Radioactive contamination in the groundwater has increased over time and may continue to increase unless the radioactive wastes are removed. A flood or an earthquake could also increase the risk of further groundwater contamination.

The wastes threaten the air we breathe. Radioactive radon gas and its radioactive decay particles are escaping from the landfill.

West Lake wastes contain some of the world's most toxic of all radionuclides on Earth, according to the United Nations' International Atomic Energy Agency. Many are harmful even in microscopic amounts. These radionuclides include thorium-230, radium-223, uranium-235, protactinium-231, actinium-227, and lead-210. Some of these will remain radioactive for hundreds of thousands of years. Swallowing, inhaling, or other exposure to radioactive materials can cause birth defects, cancer and other diseases.

An underground fire has been discovered near the radioactive wastes. Scientists have determined that fire could increase the risk of the spread of radioactivity.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the right agency to clean up West Lake's nuclear weapons wastes. The Corps has experts in radioactive and hazardous wastes, explosives, and landfills. The Corps, through the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP), has had the responsibility since 1997 for cleaning up **nuclear weapons wastes** in the United States, including locations in metro St. Louis. Although the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency designated West Lake as a Superfund site in 1990, the **nuclear weapons wastes** at West Lake should be transferred to the Corps' FUSRAP. The rest of West Lake should remain an EPA-designated Superfund site. Citizens and elected officials can and should request the U.S. Congress to transfer responsibility for West Lake's **nuclear weapons wastes** to the Corps of Engineers.

Our federal government creates nuclear weapons. As with other nuclear weapons waste sites, our federal government has the responsibility to clean up the nuclear weapons wastes at West Lake Landfill.

For more information contact:

Just Moms STL

Missouri Coalition for the Environment

email: westlakemoms@gmail.com

web: moenviron.org

web: stlradwastelegacy.com

 April 2015

A Few Examples of West Lake's Radioactive Hazards:

	IN NATURE	AT WEST LAKE
thorium-230	less than one picocurie per gram	178,000 pCi/g
radium-223	below detection in the U.S.	1,097 pCi/g
uranium-235	below detection in the U.S.	774 pCi/g
gamma rays	40 to 50 counts per minute	2,288,000 CPM

Sources: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Summary Report: Radioactive Material in the West Lake Landfill, June 1988; Remedial Investigation Report prepared for the Respondents' Group by EMSI, April 2000

You Can Help!

Please go to moenviron.org to sign a letter asking U.S. Senators Claire McCaskill and Roy Blunt and Congress members William Lacy Clay and Ann Wagner to work to transfer responsibility for West Lake's radioactive wastes to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

April 10, 2015

To: Government officials and concerned citizens

As you may know, metropolitan St. Louis still has radioactive wastes left over from the processing of uranium for nuclear weapons from 1942 to 1966. And some of those weapons wastes were illegally dumped at West Lake Landfill, about a mile from the Missouri River.

Your help is needed to convince Congress to support legislation that will put the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in charge of West Lake's radioactive wastes.

The Corps has been responsible nationwide since 1997 for the cleanup of nuclear weapons wastes, including at locations in St. Louis. We now also need the Corps' knowledge, experience, technologies, and guidance at West Lake.

The enclosed pamphlet shows how you can send a letter urging Congress to give the Corps responsibility for West Lake's nuclear weapons wastes.

To quote from the late Hannes Alfvén, a 1970 Nobel laureate in physics:
"Thou shalt not leave a polluted and poisoned world to future generations."

Sincerely,



Carolyn Bower, a retired journalist
349 Magna Carta St. Louis 63141



Kay Drey, an environmentalist
515 West Point St. Louis 63130